

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN SOUTHERN DIVISION

RDI OF MICHIGAN, LLC,

Plaintiff,

v.

MICHIGAN COIN-OP VENDING, INC, JORDAN MIRCH, and DOES I-V and ROES VI-IX,

Defendants.

Case: 2:08-cv-11177 Judge: Zatkoff, Lawrence P Referral MJ: Majzoub, Mona K Filed: 03-19-2008 At 10:33 AM

Filed: 03-19-2006 At 10.35 , and CMP RDI OF MI V. MIRCH, ET AL (TAM)

PLAINTIFF RDI OF MICHIGAN'S MOTION FOR EX-PARTE TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER, PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION, AND FOR SEIZURE AND IMPOUNDEMENT OF INFRINGING GOODS

Plaintiff RDI of Michigan, LLC, ("RDI"), through counsel, petitions this Honorable Court for an ex-parte Temporary Restraining Order, a Preliminary Injunction to enjoin Defendants from copying and using in commerce infringing copies of RDI's copyrighted works and illegally creating derivative works thereof, and for an Order seizing and impounding the infringing goods, and states:

- 1. RDI is the owner of copyrights TX-6-062-022 and TX-6-062-023 in computer code for video poker games, originally created by Merit Industries, Inc. (the "Video Poker Games"). RDI is also the owner of copyright PA-1340-639, covering the audiovisual elements of the Video Poker Games.
- 2. As set forth in the Verified Complaint, the affidavits of former Michigan Coin-Op Vending, Inc., employees Dan Domek and Kevin Carson, other exhibits, and the brief in support of this motion, Defendants have been illegally "knocking off" and distributing unauthorized copies of

the Video Poker Games throughout the State of Michigan, and continue to do so. Basically, MCO has used a chip burner to copy computer chips containing RDI's copyrighted computer code and placing those counterfeit, knock-off chips in game counsels so as to operate an illegal business.

- 3. RDI is being irreparably harmed by the continuing and blatantly willful infringement of its copyrighted works, and will continue to be so harmed in the absence of injunctive relief. Increasing the need to immediate ex-parte relief is the fact that there is direct evidence, as stated in the affidavits of Domek and Carson, that Mirch is not only infringing RDI's copyrights, but is also deliberately engaging in conduct to cover his tracks by destroying evidence of his infringement.
- 4. In addition to granting an injunction, section 503(a) of the Copyright Act authorizes this Court to order the seizure and impoundment of "all copies . . . claimed to have been made or used in violation of the copyright owner's exclusive rights" and of all devices by means of which such copies may be reproduced.
- 5. For the reasons set forth in the Verified Complaint, the affidavits of Don Domek and Kevin Carson, the brief and other exhibits accompanying this motion, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court enter an ex-parte temporary restraining order and, subsequently, a preliminary injunction, as well as an order of seizure and impoundment as set forth as follows in the accompanying proposed order:
 - a. Prohibiting Defendants, their officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys, and those persons in active concert or participation them who receive actual notice of the injunction, from:
 - i. operating, copying, reproducing, selling, offering for sale, or displaying;
 - ii. transferring, moving, relocating, disposing of, dissipating, discarding, secreting, or hiding;
 - iii. tampering with, modifying, changing, convening, altering, adjusting, repairing, revising, amending, or varying any video poker game that

infringes on or is derivative of RDI's Video Poker Games and its copyrights, as identified herein, including, but not limited to, any computer board(s), computer chip(s), computer equipment, or any other electronic storage devices; including, but not limited to, DVDs and/or computer storage discs, U9 chips containing any video poker game that infringes on or is derivative of RDI's Video Poker Games and/or the computer source code from which it derives; and

- b. Authorizing the seizure and storage of all infringing video poker games, circuit boards, and other materials in the possession of the Defendants MCO and Mirch and all persons in privity or acting in concert with those Defendants.
- 6. Plaintiff has not sought concurrence in this order because Plaintiff justly fears that, if given advance notice of Plaintiff's motion, Defendants would immediately seek to secret or destroy the infringing materials and devices.

WHEREFORE, RDI prays that this Court:

- A. enter a TRO and preliminary injunction against MCO, Mirch, their respective agents, employees, officers and directors, attorneys, successors, licensees and assigns and all others acting in concert with them ("Defendants") which:
 - 1. Enjoins Defendants from engaging in further infringement, including without limitation engaging in further knocking off computer chips containing RDI's copyrighted Video Poker Game computer programs;
 - Orders Defendants to deliver up for impound and ultimate destruction all infringing materials and devices, including chip burner, discs, U9 chips, computer boards and other storage media which contain infringing copies of RDI's copyrighted Video Poker Games which are within Defendants' possession, custody or control;
 - B enter an order of impoundment authorizing the seizure and storage of all infringing

video poker games, circuit boards, and other materials in the possession of Defendants MCO and Mirch, and all persons in privity or acting in concert with these Defendants; and

C. Grant any other appropriate relief.

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Dated: March 18, 2008

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN SOUTHERN DIVISION

RDI OF MICHIGAN, LLC,

Plaintiff,

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V.

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CMP RDI OF MI V. MIRCH, ET AL (TAM)

BRIEF OF PLAINTIFF RDI OF MICHIGAN, LLC, IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR TRO, PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION, AND FOR SEIZURE AND IMPOUNDEMENT OF INFRINGING GOODS

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ISSUES PRESENTED

Should the Court issue a TRO, preliminary injunction, and order for seizure and impoundment of infringing goods which (a) enjoins Defendants from engaging in copyright infringement, including knocking off RDI's copyrighted Video Poker Game computer programs, (b) orders Defendants to deliver all knock-offs to the Court during the pendency of this litigation, and (c) authorizing the seizure and storage of all infringing video poker games, circuit boards, U9 chips, and other materials in the possession of Defendants used to create the infringing goods, when:

- Plaintiff owns copyrights on the computer code and the audiovisual elements of the Video Poker Games; and
- Defendants have directly copied Plaintiff's copyrighted work by having "knock-off' circuit boards and U9 chips produced with Plaintiff's Video Poker Games embedded in the boards and chips; and
- Defendants have been circulating their infringing game in commerce in massive numbers without authorization from Plaintiff?

Plaintiff answers 'Yes."

STATEMENT OF FACTS

I. Introduction

Section 502(a) of the Copyright Act, 17 U.S.C. § 502(a), authorizes this court to enter a preliminary injunction to stop infringement.

Section 503(a) of the Copyright Act authorizes this Court to order the seizure and impoundment of "all copies . . . claimed to have been made or used in violation of the copyright owner's exclusive rights" and of all devices by means of which such copies may be reproduced. See, e.g., Columbia Pictures Industries, Inc. v. T & F Enterprises, Inc., 68 F.Supp.2d 833 (E.D.Mich.1999) (Gadola, J.) (seized video cassettes); RSO Records, Inc. v. Peri, 596 F.Supp. 849 (C.D.N.Y. 1984) (counterfeit records and recording equipment); Entral Group Intern., L.L.C. v. New York One Cafe Inc., 2007 WL 869587, *8-9 (E.D.N.Y. 2007) (karaoke works and recording equipment).

Here, the evidence demonstrates that the Court should do both because Defendants have engaged in a willful scheme to knock-off Plaintiffs' copyrighted Video Poker Games by the simple, indeed primitive copying of the computer chips which contain the copyrighted Video Poker Game software programs.

In most cases, plaintiffs must rely on circumstantial evidence to establish copying. Here, however, there is direct evidence that Defendants have been engaged in a scheme to create knock-offs of RDI's copyrighted Video Poker Games and to use those knock-offs in its business in order to avoid a prior agreement with RDI in which Defendants (a) acknowledged RDI's rights and (b) agreed to license authorized Video Poker Games from RDI.

Based on available information, it appears that Defendants have placed more than 130 of the infringing games into the market in Michigan.

This Court should enter a temporary restraining order, preliminary injunction, and order for seizure and impoundment of infringing goods, which (1) enjoins MCO from further making additional knock-offs, (2) requires MCO to deliver all existing knock-offs and the devices which

Defendants used to knock-off the computer chips containing Defendants' copyrighted Video Poker Games, and (3) authorizes the seizure and storage of all infringing video poker games, circuit boards, and other materials in the possession of Defendants.

II. The Copyrighted Works

RDI is the exclusive licensee in the State of Michigan for the sale and distribution of the copyrights in the Video Poker Games. The computer software programs incorporated into the Video Poker Games have been registered with the U.S. Copyright Office as Copyright Registration Nos. TX-6-062-022 and TX-6-062-023 and PA 1-340-639. (Copies of the Copyright Registrations are attached as Exhibits A, B, and C.)

Copyright Registration Nos. TX-6-062-022 and TX-6-062-023 are valid and subsisting copyrights in the computer code for the Video Poker Games. Copyright Registration No. PA 1-340-639 is a valid and subsisting copyright in the audiovisual components of the Video Poker Games. That copyright protects the graphic and sound elements of the Video Poker Games, i.e., the "look and feel" of the games at the user interface, and its methods of play. (The copyrights and the Video Poker Games are sometimes hereinafter referred to collectively as the "Copyrighted Works").

The Copyrighted Works are derivative works of earlier versions of the Video Poker Games, which were registered with the United States Copyright Office as Copyright Registration Nos. TX 1-291-223, 1-291-225, 16 291-228, 1425-047, and 1-338-172 by Merit Industries, Inc. ("Merit"). Features of the Video Poker Games have also been trademarked and registered with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

RDI obtained its exclusive license from Riviera Distributors, Inc. ("Riviera"), an Illinois corporation. Pursuant to its exclusive license agreement with Riviera, RDI has the rights to sue for infringement of the copyrights and trademarks as well as to sue for any other claims which arise out of the infringing activities. Riviera obtained all right, title and interest in the copyrights and intellectual property of the Video Poker Games from Merit pursuant to a Bill of Sale and Intellectual Property Assignment, effective as of March 12, 2004.

The Video Poker Games consist of a computer software program that is copied onto a U9 computer chip, among other programmable chips, which are then positioned on a circuit board. The circuit board, in turn, is installed into an upright game cabinet by attaching it to a video game harness with a monitor, bill acceptor, and various buttons that control the video game. When properly assembled and rendered operational, the computer program, circuit board, computer chips, harness and monitor interact to permit consumers to play the Video Poker Games. Modifications were made to the original Video Poker Games adding additional features such as bonus functions and increased speed of play (the "Enhancements").

II. The Defendants

Defendant Michigan Coin-Op Vending, Inc. ("MCO") is a Michigan Corporation with its principal place of business in Ferndale, Michigan. Defendant Jordan Mirch owns MCO and is a resident of Troy, Michigan.

MCO is in the business of distributing coin operated amusement games and devices. MCO operates routes for the placement of coin-operated amusement devices in various locations. The locations in which MCO places coin-operated amusement devices includes restaurants, bars and fraternal organization halls (collectively "Game Locations"). (A list of the Game Locations is attached as Exhibit D.)

MCO and Mirch have engaged an unlawful scheme to infringe RDI's intellectual property rights by using the Video Poker Games containing the copyrighted computer software without a license to do so. As part of the scheme, MCO and Mirch blatantly knocked off RDI's Video Poker Games, including the Enhancements, by copying the computer code onto computer chips and using the Knock-Off chips (the "Knock Offs") and selling or distributing the Knock Offs to businesses throughout Southeast Michigan.

III. RDI's Prior Agreement With MCO and Mirch

In early 2007, MCO operated more than 120 Video Poker Games or Knock-Offs at various Game Locations in the State of Michigan. These Video Poker Games illegally incorporated the

Copyrighted Works, including the Enhancements, without a license to do so. RDI discovered that MCO and Mirch were engaged in the distribution of unauthorized, infringing Games.

RDI notified MCO and Mirch of their unlawful, infringing activities. MCO and Mirch acknowledged their unlawful, infringing activities, but desired to continue to distribute and operate the Video Poker Games. MCO and Mirch sought a license from RDI to do so. RDI was willing to license MCO and Mirch to use authorized versions of the Video Poker Games (the "Authorized Boards"), subject to a number of conditions and representations. These conditions and representations were set forth in a Lease Agreement, a Promissory Note, and a Guaranty executed by MCO and Mirch on or about April 7, 2007. (A copy of the Lease is attached as Exhibit E.)

MCO and Mirch were represented by attorney Neil Rockind (P-48618) in connection with the negotiation and execution of the Lease, Promissory Note and Guaranty. Among the representations, acknowledgements and undertakings made by MCO and Mirch are these:

- a) MCO and Mirch acknowledged, in Sections 3.1 and 25 of the Lease, that, prior to the execution of the Lease, MCO operated unauthorized and infringing boards without a license.
- b) MCO and Mirch acknowledged, in Section 10.2 of the Lease, the existence and validity of RDI's copyrights;
- c) MCO and Mirch agreed, in Section 10.2 of the Lease, that they would not challenge the validity or enforceability of RDI's copyrights in any forum, judicial or otherwise, or before any tribunal, agency or otherwise.
- d) MCO and Mirch agreed that MCO would replace its unauthorized and infringing boards with an equal number of Authorized Boards;
- e) MCO and Mirch represented, in Section 1.1 of the Lease, that MCO operated 127 unauthorized boards prior to the execution of the Lease and that MCO would replace these boards with 127 Authorized Boards.
- f) MCO and Mirch agreed, in Section 3.1 of the Lease, that MCO would turn over to

RDI at its sole expense all of its unauthorized boards.

g) MCO and Mirch agreed, in Section 4 of the Lease, that RDI could reclaim possession of the Authorized Boards upon any default by MCO, including without limitation, the failure to pay all amounts due under the Lease, Promissory Note, and Guaranty.

RDI leased 127 Authorized Boards to MCO. Each was identified by a separate serial and RDI number and placed into locations owned by MCO, Mirch or the unnamed Defendants. (A list of the serial and RDI numbers for each of the Authorized Boards delivered to MCO and Mirch is attached as Exhibit F.)

IV. Defendant's Infringing Activities

By August, 2007, MCO and Mirch were in material breach of their obligations to RDI. In January, 2008, RDI commenced a lawsuit against MCO and Mirch in the Oakland County Circuit Court, Case No. 08-088524-CK, asserting state law claims for breach of the Lease, unfair competition, fraud and tortious interference.

RDI also sought a preliminary injunction, and a hearing was scheduled for January 23, 2007, which among other things sought an injunction against MCO's further use of the Video Poker Games and the Authorized Boards, which MCO had obtained pursuant to the Lease.

To avoid the effects of an injunction, MCO and Mirch engaged in an unlawful conspiracy to copy the Copyrighted Works by making the Knock-Offs. MCO and Mirch purchased additional circuit boards with U9 chips that contained the Video Poker Games. (Exhibit G, Affidavit of Don Domek) Those boards and U9 chips were themselves knock-offs of authorized boards which had been originally obtained from Merit. (Exhibit G)

MCO and Mirch used a U9 chip to make the illegal Knock-Offs using an Eprom chip burner. (Exhibit G) To make the Knock-Offs, MCO and Mirch erased a compatible chip using an ultraviolet eraser. (Exhibit G; Exhibit H, Affidavit of Kevin Carson) Using the Eprom burner, MCO and Mirch then copied the Video Poker Game software program with the Enhancements onto

the compatible chip. (Exhibit G; Exhibit H)

On January 21, 2008, MCO and Mirch instructed MCO employees, including Daniel Domek and Kevin Carson, to make Knock-Offs which could be used in the event that the Oakland County Circuit Court granted the preliminary injunction. (Exhibit G; Exhibit H) Mirch told the MCO employees to work quickly because MCO only had two days to burn replacement Knock-Off chips. (Exhibit G) Mirch explained to these employees that he had to take RDI's Authorized Boards to court and could not get caught with boards in his possession that contained any of the unauthorized Enhancements. (Exhibit G)

The MCO employees worked continuously into the early hours of January 23, 2008, making the Knock Offs. (Exhibit G) The MCO employees then went to each of Mirch's Game Locations, removed RDI's Authorized Boards, and replaced them with the Knock-Off boards which they had just finished burning. (Exhibit G; Exhibit H) Mirch then packaged the Authorized Boards into boxes and delivered them to the court on January 23, 2008. (Exhibit G)

Based on MCO's representations that it was turning RDI's Authorized Boards over to the custody of the Court, the Oakland County Circuit Court did not enter a preliminary injunction on January 23, 2008. Since January 23, 2008, MCO and Mirch have continued to make, distribute and use Knock-Offs in order to avoid MCO's obligations under the Lease and to willfully infringe RDI's exclusive rights in the Copyrighted Works.

V. RDI's Damages

On average, one of the Video Poker Games operated by Mirch most likely generates over \$1,000.00 per week, which equates to approximately \$4,000.00 per machine per month, or \$48,000.00 per machine per year. Conservatively assuming that MCO has placed 150 Knock-Off boards into the stream of commerce, on information and belief, these infringing games have generated gross revenue in the range of as much as \$6 million over the past three years. Upon information and belief, Defendants have, in fact, placed a substantially larger number of games into Game Locations.

In addition to revenues from the distribution and operation of the Infringing Games, MCO and Mirch have most likely received revenues from the sale of Knock-Off boards to other distributors and operators. These infringing activities of MCO and Mirch are continuing through the present day.

ARGUMENT

I. THE COURT SHOULD GRANT RDI'S REQUEST FOR A TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER AND PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION, TO STOP DEFENDANTS' ONGOING INFRINGEMENT OF RDI'S INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS IN ITS VIDEO POKER GAMES

Defendants are violating numerous intellectual property and other rights of RDI, many of which are grounds for injunctive relief. Clear proof of the infringement of RDI's copyrights is presented in the Verified Complaint and the affidavitd of Daniel Domek and Kevin Carson.

RDI can satisfy the requirements for a preliminary injunction:

- (A) there is a strong likelihood that RDI will succeed on the merits;
- (B) RDI will suffer irreparable harm without the injunction;
- (C) Neither MCO nor Mirch will suffer any harm if an injunction issues because they have no right to counterfeit and knock-off RDI's intellectual property;
- (D) the public interest favors the protection of intellectual property, including copyrights and trademarks.

Lorillard Tobacco Co. v. Amouri 's Grand Foods, Inc., 453 F.3d 377, 380 (6th Cir. 2006). These criteria "do not establish a rigid and comprehensive test for determining the appropriateness of preliminary injunctive relief...The four considerations applicable to preliminary injunction decisions are factors to be balanced, not prerequisites that must be met." Frisch's Restaurant, Inc. v. Shoney's, Inc., 759 F.2d 1261, 1263 (6th Cir. 1985) (citations omitted).

A. RDI Is Likely To Succeed On The Merits Of Its Claims.

To establish a claim for copyright infringement, a plaintiff must show: (1) ownership of a

valid copyright and (2) copying of constituent elements of the work that are original. See *Frisch's Restaurant, Inc.*, 759 F.2d at 1263. Here, RDI can demonstrate ownership of valid copyrights in both the computer code and the audiovisual elements of the Video Poker Games, and can also demonstrate that those copyrighted works were copied by Defendants for commercial distribution in the "Knock-Off" versions.

a. RDI Owns Valid Copyrights in Both the Computer Code And Audiovisual Elements of the Video Poker Games

RDI is the exclusive licensee in Michigan of the Video Poker Game computer programs. The computer programs have been registered with the United States Copyright Office. Computer programs are subject to copyright protection. *Apple Computer, Inc. v. Franklin Computer Corp.*, 714 F.2d 1240, 1249 (3d Cir. 1983). This protection extends to computer programs for video games, as well. *See, e.g., Atari Games Corp. v. Nintendo of Amer., Inc.*, 975 F.2d 832, 838, 843-845 (9th Cir. 1992) (affirming grant of preliminary injunction for infringement of copyrighted computer program for video game); *Midway Mfg. Co. v. Strohon*, 564 F. Supp. 741, 749 (W.D.III. 1983) (citing *Williams Electronics, Inc. v. Artie International, Inc.*, 685 F.2d 870 (3d Cir. 1982) ("the computer program connected with a video game is protectible").

Additionally, valid copyrights may be obtained and enforced in the audiovisual elements of a video game, i.e., the "look and feel" of the game at the point of user interface - generally, the graphic and screen elements displayed on the computer monitor — as well as the "flow" of the game. See, e.g., *Nintendo of Amer., Inc v. Elcon Indus., Inc.*, 564 F. Supp. 937, 943 (ED. Mich. 1982) (citing 17 U.S.C. § 102(a)); *Stern Elec., Inc, v. Kaufman*, 669 F.2d 852, 855 (2d Cir. 1982); *Atari Games Corp. v. Oman*, 888 F.2d 878, 882 (D.C. Cir. 1989).

A certificate of copyright registration establishes a prima facie presumption that the copyright is valid and subsisting and that plaintiff is otherwise entitled to the protection afforded by law to the holder of a copyright." *Nintendo of Amer., Inc.*, 564 F.Supp. at 943, See also *Durham Indus., Inc. v. Tomy Corp.*, 630 F.2d 905 (2d Cir. 1980).

b. Defendants are infringing RDI's copyrights in the Video Poker Games.

Defendants have taken circuit boards and U9 chips containing RDI's copyrighted computer code and had Knock-Off copies made, which they distributed to their customers. This copying in and of itself constitutes copyright infringement.

There is direct evidence of Defendants' copying Plaintiffs code and Plaintiff's audiovisual copyright in the games' graphics. MCO and Mirch acknowledge, in Sections 3.1 and 25 of the Lease that, prior to the execution of the Lease, MCO operated unauthorized and infringing boards without a license. (Exhibit E)

In addition, after RDI sued Mirch and MCO for violating the terms of the Lease, Mirch admitted to his employees that he had made illegal copies of the Copyrighted Works and, when ordered to bring the Authorized Boards to court last January, specifically instructed his employees, including Don Domek and Kevin Carson, days before the court appearance, to burn additional illegal copies of RDI's Video Poker Games to replace the Authorized Boards. (Exhibit G; Exhibit H)

Mr. Domek has stated in his Affidavit that he and other MCO employees worked through the night burning Knock Off chips, and placed them into circuit boards that they substituted for the Authorized Boards, just hours before Mirch turned over the Authorized Boards to the Oakland County Circuit Court.

Thus, the evidence clearly shows that Defendants have taken RDI's code and made unauthorized copies. By copying and distributing the Video Poker Games containing RDI's code, Defendants are plainly infringing on RDI's rights.

B. Riviera Will Suffer Irreparable Harm If A TRO and Preliminary Injunction Is Not Issued.

RDI is in desperate need of a TRO, without prior notice to the Defendants, because there is direct evidence that MCO and Mirch are still aggressively infringing on RDI's copyrights by creating the Knock Offs and are deliberately attempting to cover their tracks by destroying and

concealing evidence of infringement. These Defendants create the Knock Offs in large quantities, with relative ease, in fearless disregard of RDI's rights. If the Court does not immediately order ex-parte injunctive relief, there is no question that RDI will suffer severe and irreparable injury because MCO and Mirch will continue diluting the market with their counterfeit boards and chips. If the Defendants are given advance notice, they will very easily be able to hide the devices used to create the Knock Offs, like the Eprom burner, the ultraviolet eraser and compatible U9 chips. Indeed, as stated in the Affidavits of Domek and Carson, Mirch has no qualms about covering his tracks, and is quite diligent in doing so. (Exhibit G; Exhibit H)

Moreover, in a copyright case, a plaintiff establishes a rebuttable presumption of irreparable harm simply by showing that a valid copyright has been infringed. A defendant cannot even rebut the presumption of irreparable harm by showing the adequacy of monetary damages. *Cadence Design Systems, Inc. v. Avant! Corp.*, 125 F.3d 824, 827 (9th Cir.1997); 4 *Nimmer on Copyright*, § 14.06[A], at 14-105 (1997). As the Ninth Circuit explained in *Cadence Design Systems*, 125 F.3d at 823:

... "it is well settled that the availability of money damages does not rebut the presumption of irreparable harm in copyright cases." Cadence cites several appeals court decisions for support, including: *Triad*, 64 F.3d at 1335 (holding that the presumption of irreparable harm supported the district court's preliminary injunction order); *Johnson Controls, Inc. v. Phoenix Control Sys., Inc.*, 886 F.2d 1173, 1174 (9th Cir.1989) (same); *Apple Computer, Inc. v. Franklin Computer Corp.*, 714 F.2d 1240, 1254 (3d Cir.1983) (holding that the district court erred when it failed to consider the presumption of irreparable harm); and *Atari, Inc. v. North Am. Philips Consumer Elecs. Corp.*, 672 F.2d 607, 620-21 (7th Cir.1982) (reversing the district court's finding of non-infringement and directing the district court to enter a preliminary injunction based upon the presumption of irreparable harm).

* * *

Commentator Nimmer supports this result. Nimmer writes that if a plaintiff establishes a likelihood of success on the merits of a copyright infringement claim, "it would seem erroneous to deny a preliminary injunction simply because actual damages can be precisely calculated...." 4 Melville B. Nimmer & David Nimmer, Nimmer on Copyright § 14.06[A], at 14-105 (1997); see also American Direct Mktg., Inc. v. Azad Int'l, Inc., 783 F.Supp. 84, 96 (E.D.N.Y.1992) (noting that in the Second and Ninth Circuits, "a *828 finding of likelihood of success on the merits automatically triggers a preliminary

injunction, and failure to issue one is reversible error if the validity of the copyright and existence of copying are not at issue"); Concrete Mach. Co., 843 F.2d at 612 (discussing the presumption of irreparable harm and stating that "[t]here is ... no need actually to prove irreparable harm when seeking an injunction against copyright infringement").

"In the copyright context, much rests on the first factor [of the preliminary injunction test] because irreparable harm is presumed once a likelihood of success has been established...and because an injunction likely will serve the public interest once a claimant has demonstrated a likelihood of success in this setting." *Lexmark Intl. Inc. v. Static Control Components, Inc.*, 387 F.3d 522, 532-33 (6th Cir. 2004).

Here, RDI has demonstrated a strong likelihood of success on the merits of its copyright claims. Therefore, irreparable harm in the absence of an injunction, which is an absolute certainty given the facts of this case, should also be presumed.

Based upon Mirch's admissions in the Lease and the affidavits of Domek and Carson, it is clear that Mirch has no compunction about infringing upon RDI's rights. An inspection of Defendants' premises would most certainly reveal numerous infringing items. Issuing notice prior to the issuance of a TRO and/or an order of inspection and seizure would merely give them an opportunity to dispose of evidence in an attempt to further cover their tracks. It is therefore clear that an ex-parte TRO freezing the disposition of all Video Poker Games, U9 chips, circuit boards, Defendants' Eprom burner, and their ultraviolet eraser is necessary, at the very least, against all Defendants; and that an order of seizure, at least as against Mirch and MCO is very likely necessary to prevent irreparable harm to RDI.

C. The Public Interest Will Be Best Served By The Issuance Of A TRO And Preliminary Injunction.

The public interest can only be served by upholding copyright protections and, correspondingly, preventing misappropriation of the skills, creative energies, and resources which are invested in the protected work. *Apple Computer, Inc. v. Franklin Computer Corp.*, 714 F.2d 1240, 1255 (3d Cir. 1983); . Here, because RDI has demonstrated a strong likelihood of success on the merits of its copyright infringement claims, the public interest will be served by the issuance of

a TRO and preliminary injunction.

D. Granting Of The TRO and Preliminary Injunction Will Not Cause Substantial Harm To Others

"The question of whether an injunction would cause substantial harm to others, including [Defendants], is of questionable relevance here, where it appears particularly likely that [Defendants are] infringer[s]." *Bird Brain, Inc v. Menard Inc.*, 2000 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 11668, *26 (W.D. Mich., Aug. 4, 2000), citing *Concrete Machinery*, 843 F.2d at 612 (noting the "questionable relevance" of the balance of hardships factor to the determination of whether a likely infringer should he preliminarily enjoined). Given that RDI has demonstrated that the other preliminary injunction factors weigh in its favor (including the primary factor of likelihood of success on the merits), the possibility that Defendants, admitted copyright infringers, will be preliminarily enjoined from continuing to benefit from their infringing conduct, is not particularly relevant and is not a basis to deny RDI the injunctive relief to which it has established its entitlement.

II. THE COURT SHOULD GRANT RDI'S REQUEST FOR AN ORDER OF IMPOUNDMENT AUTHORIZING THE SEIZURE AND STORAGE OF ALL INFRINGING COPIES AND THE DEVICES USED BY DEFENDANTS TO CREATE THEM

Under 17 U.S.C. § 503(a), this Court may order that the Knock Offs, including all video poker games, circuit boards, and U9 chips "claimed to have been made or used in violation of the copyright owner's exclusive rights," and the devises used by Defendants to create them be impounded. Impoundment is intended to ensure the eventual destruction of the infringing articles when RDI prevails in this lawsuit. *First Technology Safety Systems, Inc. v. Depinet*, 11 F.3d 641, 649 (6th Cir. 1993). This Court may order impoundment because RDI has demonstrated its entitlement to preliminary injunctive relief. *WPOW, Inc. v. MRLJ Enters.*, 584 F. Supp. 132, 135 (D.C. D.C. 1984). Impoundment, which generally is sought on an *ex parte* basis and is particularly suited for video game "piracy" lawsuits, is proper even where other injunctive relief has issued. ¹

Fed.R.Civ.P. 65, which sets forth the standards governing the issuance of

As explained by Nimmer:

Impoundment may be and usually is sought provisionally. Such relief most often is granted in "piracy" actions involving widespread duplication or marketing of counterfeit merchandise such as audio and video recordings, video games and other software, and toys. Although a TRO may seem sufficient to prevent the defendant from disposing of infringing materials, sometimes a suspect defendant may be disposed to ignore a TRO.

Although impoundment may issue "at any time" while the action is pending, it is almost always requested at the outset of suit. The reason is that the element of surprise is essentially for a successful impoundment. If a lawsuit already is pending, the defendant is on notice and, if so inclined, may make it difficult to locate and identify allegedly infringing merchandise. For the same reason, impoundment applications are almost always *ex parte*, without notice to the defendant.

6 MELVILLE B. NIMMER & DAVID NIMMER, NIMMER ON COPYRIGHT § 35.05 (2006).

As explained above, RDI is entitled to injunctive relief to prevent MCO and Mirch from continuing their bold and irreverent infringing conduct. RDI is also entitled to impoundment of all of the infringing video poker games, circuit boards, U9 chips, and other infringing materials in these Defendants' possession, specifically including, but not limited to, the Eprom burner and ultraviolet eraser. The Defendants have in their possession video poker games and other materials that infringe upon the Copyrighted Works, which must be destroyed if and when RDI ultimately succeeds on the merits of this copyright infringement action.

CONCLUSION

The Court should issue a TRO, preliminary injunction, and order for seizure and impoundment of infringing goods, which (1) enjoins future knock-offs and (2) prevents MCO and Mirch from using the existing knock-offs; (3) orders Defendants to deliver to the Court all "knock-offs" and the devices which Defendants used to make the "knock-offs," and (4) authorizes the seizure and storage of all infringing goods and materials in the possession of Defendants used to create the infringing goods.

preliminary injunctions and TROs, expressly applies to copyright impoundment proceedings. Fed.R.Civ.P. 65(f).

STEPHEN F. WASINGER PLC

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anthony@aldplc.com

Dated: March 18, 2008

EXHIBIT A

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EXHIBIT B

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EXHIBIT D

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EXHIBIT E

LEASE AGREEMENT

This lease agreement (the "Agreement"), made this 6th day of April 2007, is between RDI of Michigan, LLC ("Lessor") and Michigan Coin-Op Vanding, Inc. ("Lessee"), whose address is 1898 Larchwood, Ste. C. Troy, MI 48063, and Jordan Mirch ("Guarantor"), whose address is 1664 Greenwich Dr., Troy, MI 45095.

WHEREAS, Lessor is the exclusive distributor of Merit video poker game boards utilizing computer code and audio visual elements registered with the United States Copyright Office as Copyright Registration Nov. TX-8-082-022 and TX-8-082-025 and FA-1-340-639 (sometimes the "Authorized Boards" or "Authorized Board");

WHEREAS, Leases and Guarantor acknowledge Leason's exclusive rights in the Authorized Boards:

WHEREAS, Leases desires to replace its unauthorized Merit game boards (the "Unauthorized Boards") with Authorized Boards in consideration for Lessor conditionally releasing Lessoe from all past and present infringement claims that Lessor may have against Lessee for using the Unauthorized Boards and for the right to lease the Authorized Boards from Lessor,

WHEREAS, Lesses desires to isses Authorized Boards from Lessor in accordance with the occurrents, terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement; and

WHEREAS, Guarantor agrees to guaranty the obligations of Lessee under this Agreement.

SECTION 1. EQUIPMENT AND RENT

- The Lessee represents that the number of plantage of plantage of the execution of this Agreement is 22 by Lessee shall lesse from Lessor under this Agreement the number of Authorized Boards to the number of its Unauthorized Boards. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, Lessor lesses to Lessee the number of 1.1
- 1.2 Authorized Boards equal to the rent of (I) \$750 per Authorized Board to be paid upon execution of this Agreement (the "Initial Charges") payable in accordance with Section 1.3 and (ii) \$4 per Authorized Board per day paid weekly (the "Weekly Charges") commencing 7 days after the Authorized Boards are delivered to Lessez (the Effective Date").

The Lessee shall pay Lessor a down payment equal to 20% of the initial Charges (i.e., the 1.3 number of Authorized Boards times \$750 times 20%). The balance of the Initial Charges shall be paid by Lesses to Lessor in accordance with the Promiseory Note attached hereto as Exhibit A, which shall be secured by the Guaranty Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit B.

The Lesson shall pay Weekly Charges to Lessor equal to \$4 per day times the number of 1.4 Authorized Boards delivered to Lessee. However, in the calculation to determine the Lessee's Weekly Charges, Lessee may reduce the number of Authorized Boards subject to the Weekly Charge by 5% to cover Authorized Boards not immediately put in service or otherwise. For Businglive purposes, if the Lesses lesses 100 Authorized Boards from Lessor, its Weekly Charges shall be 95 Authorized Boards times \$4 per day times 7 days, or \$2,550 per week.

SECTION 2. TERM OF LEASE

Each Authorized Board shall have an initial lease term of 35 months after the Effective Date. 2.1 2.2 Elther party may terminate this Agreement at the end of such initial term, provided 30 days. prior written notice is received; otherwise each Authorized Board shall remain subject to this

Agreement, and the term shall be extended for an additional year.

SECTION 3. DELIVERY OF EXISTING MERIT BOARDS Lesses agrees and represents that, prior to the execution of this Lesse, Lesses operated 3.1 Unauthorized Boards. Lessor is relying on Lesses's representation as to the number of Unauthorized Boards It operated prior to the execution of this Lease, as set forth in Section 1.1. If this representation is false, it shall constitute a breach of this Agreement.

3.2 Lesses agrees to deliver to Lessor at its sole expense all of its Unauthorized Boards within 30

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days of the Effective Date, unless otherwise consented to by Lessor.

SECTION 4, LEBSOR'S RIGHT TO TERMINATION

Lessor may immediately terminate this Agreement and racialm possession of the Authorized Boards lessed upon any default by Lessee, including, without fimitation, the failure promptly to pay all amounts due under this Agreement.

SECTION 5. COMMERCIAL, NOT CONSUMER TRANSACTION Lesses represents and agrees that Lesses is in the amusement game business, and the Authorized Boards are being lessed for commercial or business purposes only, and not for personal, home or family purposes and in accordance with Michigan law. This transaction is not (and shall not be deemed to be) a consumer transactions.

SECTION 6. LIMITATION OF USE

- 8.1 Authorized Boards lessed under this Agreement shall be restricted solely and exclusively to Lesses or Lesses's direct oustomers.
- 6.2 Lesses shall have no right to transfer an Authorized Board to a third party, whether by sale, issue, assignment or otherwise.

SECTION 7. MAINTENANCE

- 7.1 Lessor will be responsible for keeping the Authorized Boards in good working order and making all necessary adjustments, parts replacements, and repairs.
- 7.2 Lessor shall have full and free access to the Authorized Boards at all times.

BECTION & WARRANTY

- 5.1 Leasor warrants each Authorized Board will be in good working order on the Effective Date.
- 8.2 So long as Lessee is not in default under the terms of this Agreement, Lessor shalf cause to be made all necessary adjustments, repeirs and replacements necessary to maintain the Authorized Boards in good working order.
- 8.3 Lessor's obligation is limited to repair or replacement of any parts or items of Authorized Board when Lessor determines that they do not conform to this warranty.
- THE WARRANTY STATED IN SECTIONS 8.1, 8.2 AND 8.3 ARE IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS, OR IMPLIED, AND OF ALL OBLIGATIONS OR LIABILITIES ON THE PART OF LESSOR FOR DAMAGES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, ARISING OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH THE USE OR PERFORMANCE OF THE AUTHROIZED BOARDS.

SECTIONS ALTERATIONS

Lesses shall may not alter or disassemble an Authorized Board under any circumstances.

SECTION 10, NO BALE OF SOFTWARE AND COMPUTER CODE

- 10.1 Lessee acknowledges that each Authorized Board contains copyrighted trademarks, computer software and code on a specifically designed circuit board (the "Copyrights").
- 10.2 Lessee acknowledges the subsistence and validity of Lesson's Copyrights, and agrees not to challenge their validity or enforceability in any forum, judicial or otherwise, or before any tribunal, agency or otherwise.
- 10.3 By lessing the Authorized Boards, Lessee acknowledges and agrees that it is not obtaining enviright, little, interest or otherwise in the Copyrights. Lessee is entitled only to use the Authorized Boards as an integrated unit in a fully assembled video game under this Agreement.
- Lessee may not access, modify or copy the software used in the Authorized Board in whole or in part, nor transfer, rent, loan, lesse, sublicense or otherwise distribute the serne to any third party. Lesses agrees not to disassamble, decompile, or reverse engineer the software in the Authorized Board nor parmit any third-party to do so. Lesses shall not remove or aller any tradement, copyright notice or other proprietary notice incorporated in, marked on or affixed any software or documentation by Lessor or its licensors.

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SECTION 11, TITLE TO EQUIPMENT

Each Authorized Board shall remain the property of Lessor and may be removed by Lessor at any time upon the breach or termination of this Agreement. Lesses shall have no option to purchase the Authorized Boards at the termination of this Agreement.

SECTION 12, LOSS OR DAMAGE.

If an Authorized Board shall become fost, slolen, destroyed, or damaged beyond repair for any reason other than normal wear and teer, Leases shall promptly pay to Lessor \$750 for a replacement board.

BECTION 13. PAYMENT TO THIRD PERSON

Lesses shall comply with all instructions from Lessor as to payment of the rental charges to a person or organization other than Lassor. If requested by Lassor, Lassac agrees to pay Initial Charges and Weekly Charges against Lesses's credit card or checking account and Lesses agrees to execute any documents necessary to accomplish such payments. Failure to do so shall constitute a material breach by Lesses under this Agreement.

SECTION 14. NOTICE

Any notice or other communication given under this Agreement shall be in writing and mailed, if to Lassor, c/o Stephen Wesinger, 300 Bulmoral Centre, 32121 Woodward Avenue, Royal Oak, MI 48073, and, if to Lessee to the address first stated above, or to such other address as such parties shall designate by notice in writing to the other party.

<u>BECTION 15. TIME OF THE ESSENCE</u>

Time is of the essence with respect to this Agreement.

BECTION 16. GOVERNING LAW

This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of Michigan.

SECTION 17. EQUITABLE RELIEF

Lesses acknowledges that a violation by Lasses of its obligations under this Agreement, including without istritation, Lesses's obligations under Section 9, may cause irreparable damage to Lassor, and that Lesson's remedies at lew for such violation may be inadequate. Therefore, Lessoe agrees that Lessor will be entitled to preliminary and permanent injunctive and equitable relief equires any such violation. Such equitable relief will be in addition to, and will in no way first, Lesson's rights to other remedies at tay or in equity for such violation.

SECTION 18. CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES

In no event shall Lessor be liable for indirect, special, or consequential damages of any nature arising out of the existence, furnishing, functioning, or the Lessee's use of any Authorized Boards or any services provided.

SECTION 19. ATTORNEYS' FEES

If Lessor commences litigation to enforce its rights under this Agreement, then, in addition to all other remedies available at law or in equity, Lessor shall be entitled to recover its costs and actual attomeye' fees.

BECTION 20. INTEGRATION AND EXHIBITS

This Agreement (together with any exhibits referenced herein) shall constitute the entire agreement of the parties and supersedes all prior agreements, understandings, and negotiations. Lessor and Lesses specifically represent to each other that there are no additional or supplemental agreements between them related in any way to the Authorized Boards.

SECTION 21, WAIVER, AMENDMENT, OR MCDIFICATION

No provision of this Agreement shall be deemed waived, arranded, or modified by either party unless such waiver, amendment, or modification is in writing, signed by the party against whom the waiver, amendment, or modification is sought to be enforced,

BECTION 22. NO ASSIGNMENT OR SUBLEASE

Neither this Agreement nor any Authorized Board lessed pursuant to this Agreement may be assign or subjet by Lesses without Lessor's prior written consent.

SECTION 23, RELATIONSHIP OF PARTIES

Each party enters into and performs this Agreement as an independent contractor of the other party. This Agreement will not be constituted as constituting a relationship of employment, agency, partnership, joint venture or any other form of legal association, except as expressly set forth in this Agreement.

<u>RECTION 24. OWNERSHIP OF WRITINGS</u>
All drawings, diagrams, specifications and other material furnished by Lessor relating to use and service of the Authorized Boards, including explanatory information, shall remain the property of Lessor and may not be reproduced or distributed in any way except with the written permission of Lessor.

SECTION 26. CONDITIONAL RELEASE FROM PAST INFRINGEMENT
Lesses admits and represents that prior to the execution of this Agreement it operated Unauthorized Boards without a license. Lessor asserts that the prior use constituted an infringement of its Copyrights and that Lesses is obligated to pay demages and other remedies for infringement, which would asseed \$5,000 per Authorized Board per year. As consideration for the assection and full performance of this Agreement, Lessor agrees to release all claims for infringement upon full performance of Lesses's obligations hereunder. In the event Lesses braches its obligations under this Agreement, then Lesses agrees, in addition to any other damages for breech of the Agreement, Lesses shall be liable for past infringements, including liquidated damages of \$15,000 per Unauthorized Board, and Lesses confesses judgment in tavor of Lessor in the amount of \$16,000 per

SECTION 25. GLARANTY

If Lessee is not an individual, the person signing on behalf of Lessee shall be personally liable for any claims or damages made by Lessee spainst Lessee under this Agreement. Specifically, the individual signing on behalf of the Lessee hereby unconditionally and absolutely guarantee to Lessor the full and prompt payment when due of all sums now or hersafter psyable by the Lessee to Lessor pursuant to the terms of this Agreement, Including, without limitation, all Initial and Weekly Charges, liquidated damages and all other sums, fees and charges of every description psyable by Lessee hereunder, and the full and prompt performance of all obligations, covenants, and conditions to be observed and performed by Lessee hereunder.

This Agreement is entered into by parties below as of the date first set forth above

RDI OF MICHIGAN, LLC ("Lassor")

By: Expir Kids, LLC, Manager

By: Robert C. Horveth Its: Managing Member

Michigan Colli(Op Venting, Inc. ("Lessor")

Unauthorized Board, plus Lesson's actual attorneys' fees.

By: Jordan Myd Ita: President

Jordan Hirth ("Guarantor")

By Jordan Wirch, individually

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EXHIBIT F

7/5/07 COIN OP VENDING - JORDAN MIRCH - 127 BOARDS

<u>sn</u>	RDI
504	000413
503	000375
500	000474
446	000382
443	000388
427	000414
426	000416
424	000398
4 22 420	000411 000360
420 41 8	000351
416	000331
510	000340
448	000404
44 7	000396
445	D00405
444	000410
428	000406
425	000417
423	000412
421	000342
419	000415
417	000353
415	000356
509	000346
508	000345
506	00039 <i>7</i>
449	000403
473	000363
474	000358
475	000364
476	000362
478	000361
525	000488
524	000464
541	000459
540	000427
542	000371
555	000458
554	000456 000389
477	000466
543 472	000400
412 481	000378
479	000484
483	000444
516	0003#1
514	000383
512	000355
484	000467

513	000463
515	000365
480	000436
482	000442
523	00048
522	000480
521	000475
520	000440
519	000367
518	000448
517	000463
583	000539
584	000538
586	000536
395	
58B	000531
585	000534
589	000537
	000533
575	000522
574	000523
551	000513
541	000502
547	000498
549	000501
551	000493
560	000511
559	000512
576	000521
573	000524
569	000528
570	000527
571	000526
553	000497
572	000525
590	000532
592	000529
591	000530
5 71	000520
567	000504
544	000503
545	000499
566	000505
564	000507
546	000500
581	000516
580	900517
562	900517
563	000508
565	000506
561	00051D
579	000518
57 E	000519
557	000514
556	000515
593	000313
552	000343
	47

368	900490
376	000407
456	00040\$
455	000391
454	000386
453	000392
452	000387
451	000487
450	000486
507	000339
505	000369
502	000470
501	000457
315	000424
383	000423
382	900400
361	000439
380	000385
379	000394
378	000393
386	000337

EXHIBIT G

AFFIDAVIT OF DANIEL DOMEK

Daniel Domek, being duly sworn, deposes and states the following:

- I am over 18 years of age. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this Affidavit, and I am competent to testify to these matters. If called as a witness, I would testify to the following set forth below.
- I worked as an employee for Jordan Mirch, who operates a company called
 Michigan Coin-Op Vending, Inc.
- Mirch is engaged in the business of distributing coin operated amusement games and devices.
- Mirch operates routes for the placement of coin-operated amusement devices in various locations.
- 5. The locations in which Mirch places coin-operated amusement devices

 (including a variety of video games, which includes video poker games)

 includes restaurants, bars and fraternal organization halls (collectively "Game Locations").
- Part of my job duties while working for Mirch included sales, collections,
 service, maintenance, and marketing Game Locations.
- 7. Typically, Mirch would enter into an agreement with the proprietor, owner or tenant (the "Owner") of a Game Location whereby certain coin-operated amusement devices owned by Mirch were placed at the Game Location for use by the general public. The revenues generated through the use of the

- coin-operated amusement devices were shared by Mirch and the Owner on a split percentage basis.
- Mirch operated at least 150 video poker games at various Game Locations in the State of Michigan.
- At these Game Locations, Mirch used a video poker game made Merit Industries (the "Merit Video Poker Game").
- The Merit Video Poker Game consists of a computer software program that is copied onto a U9 computer chip, among other programmable chips, which are then positioned on a CRT 250 circuit board. The circuit board, in turn, is installed into an upright game cabinet by attaching it to a video game harness with a monitor, bill acceptor, and various buttons that control the video game. When properly assembled and rendered operational, the computer program, CRT 250 board, computer chips, harness and monitor interact to permit consumers to play a video poker game.
- 11. At some point, a new version of the Merit Video Poker Game was developed, which contained additional features such as bonus functions and increased speed of play (the "Enhanced Merit Video Poker Game").
- 12. The Enhanced Merit Video Poker Game was in demand by Mirch's customers. Mirch purchased additional circuit boards with U9 chips that contained the enhanced features, from an individual named Martin Lustig.

 Later, Mirch simply purchased a U9 chip containing the enhanced program from Lustig, and used this chip to make illegal copies of the enhanced U9

chips by using an Eprom burner (a chip burner). Consequently, instead of Mirch having to purchase an entire circuit board with the enhanced U9 chip, Mirch simply erased a compatible chip using an ultraviolet eraser. Using the Eprom burner he then copied the enhanced software program onto the compatible chip. Mirch instructed me, as well as other employees, to burn enhancements onto compatible chips, and eventually, we updated every one of Mirch's Merit Video Poker Games with enhanced U9 chips.

- 13. In early 2007, Mirch informed me that these Enhanced Merit Video Poker

 Games violated the copyright held by RDI of Michigan ("RDI"), and anyone
 caught using an illegally enhanced game would be subject to being sued for
 copyright infringement.
- 14. In April 2007, to avoid copyright infringement litigation, Mirch entered into a license and lease agreement with RDI to use an authorized modified, enhanced version of the game (the "Authorized Boards").
- 15. As part of the lease with RDI, Mirch agreed to turn over all copies of his unauthorized enhanced versions in exchange for RDI's Authorized Boards.
- 16. Mirch leased approximately 137 Authorized Boards from RDI. After Mirch took possession of the Authorized Boards, I, along with other employees of Mirch, went to the Game Locations and replaced the games containing unauthorized versions with games containing RDI's Authorized Boards. I gave the unauthorized boards to Mirch who put them in boxes, which were

- then loaded into his truck. He later told me that he took the unauthorized boards to his house in Troy.
- 17. In late 2007, Mirch stopped paying his lease payments to RDI on the Authorized Boards, stopped paying other vendors, and was bouncing checks. A number of disgruntled vendors came into the office on a number of occasions demanding payment on bad checks and invoices not paid.
- 18. In January 2008, RDI filed suit against Mirch for failing to pay his lease payments on the Authorized Boards. I talked to Mirch about the complaint, and he said "screw them."
- 19. On 1/21/08, Chad Herron, another employee, and Kevin Carson, another employee, and myself were instructed by Mirch to start erasing the U9 chips from the unauthorized enhanced Merit Video Poker boards, which we had replaced with the Authorized Boards. The unauthorized enhanced boards were in Mirch's truck. We began unloading them and were told that we had to work quickly because we only had two days to burn replacement chips containing the old un-enhanced version of the Merit Video Poker Game.

 Mirch told me that he had purchased an original U9 chip from Richard Lonski, of Casino Fun Distributing Services. Mirch explained that he had to take RDI's boards to court and could not get caught with boards in his possession that contained any of the unauthorized enhanced features.
- 20. We worked continuously into the early hours of 1/23/08 replacing the chips in the boards. Then, we went to each of Mirch's locations, removed RDI's

- boards, and replaced them with the boards containing the chips we had just finished burning.
- 21. Mirch then packaged the Authorized Boards into boxes and delivered them to the court on 1/23/08.
- 22. After the hearing on 1/23/08, Mirch called me and in an excited tone left a message saying "we beat them."
- 23. I declare that the above statements are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Daniel Domek

Subscribed and sworn to before me on March 14, 2008.

Notary public, State of Michigan, County of Oakland Nation

My commission expires: $Q - \partial U - 1 \partial U$

JOHNNE RANSCHIE

NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF MI

COUNTY OF NACOMB
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES Feb 24, 2012

ACTING IN THE COUNTY OF DELLA COUNTY

EXHIBIT H